

NCDOT Project R-4467

c/o Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
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For More Information

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The project website is: <http://www.ncdot.gov/projects/US17BusinessNC37Improve>

1,300 copies of this newsletter were produced at a cost of \$1.60 each.

If you have transportation questions on other projects, call the NCDOT customer service office at 1-877-DOT-4YOU, or visit the NCDOT website at <http://www.ncdot.org>.



Public Hearing Scheduled for September 17, 2013

The North Carolina Department of Transportation will hold a Public Hearing for Project R-4467, U.S. 17 Business/N.C. 37 Improvements in Perquimans County.

NCDOT will present the three alternatives that were retained after the August 2012 workshop (shown on pages 2-3), and will discuss the reasons for eliminating the other four alternatives.

Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Location: Perquimans County Recreation Dept.
310 Granby Street, Hertford

Time: 4:30-6:30 p.m. Pre-hearing open house, drop in any time
7 p.m. Formal presentation will begin, followed by Q&A period

Public hearing maps are available on the project website and at locations listed on page 3.

Project Description

The existing causeway on U.S. 17 Business/N.C. 37 is settling unevenly because of poor soils under the roadway and the S-Bridge (Bridge No. 8) across the Perquimans River is weakening because of its age. The local community would like to keep a reliable direct connection from downtown Hertford to Winfall and northern Perquimans County. The purpose of Project R-4467 is to continue to provide this connection.

Recent Project Activity

August 2012 - Citizens Informational Workshop, where seven alternatives were presented.

October 2012 - Three alternatives were selected to be carried forward for analysis in the Environmental Assessment. These alternatives are described on page 2 of this newsletter. The remaining four alternatives were eliminated.

February 2013 - Environmental Assessment was completed. A copy of the Environmental Assessment is available on the project website and at locations listed on page 3.

Project Schedule

Winter 2013-Spring 2014

Selection of preferred alternative
Final environmental document (Finding of No Significant Impact)

2014 - Final designs

2016* - Right of way acquisition begins

2018* - Construction begins

* Based on the draft 2014-2020 NCDOT Transportation Improvement Program, subject to change.

Next Steps

All spoken and written comments will be reviewed and discussed at a meeting following the public hearing. A final alternative will be determined by a team of state and federal agencies based on public input and the costs and impacts documented in the Environmental Assessment.

If you are unable to attend the hearing, we encourage you to contact the project team to ask questions and provide your comments. Contact information is on the back of this newsletter.

NCDOT will provide auxiliary aids and services under the Americans with Disabilities Act for disabled persons who want to participate in this workshop. Anyone requiring special services should contact Mr. Robbins as early as possible so that arrangements can be made.

Persons who speak Spanish and do not speak English, or have a limited ability to read, speak or understand English, may receive interpretive services upon request prior to the meeting by calling 1-800-481-6494.



Alternatives Studied

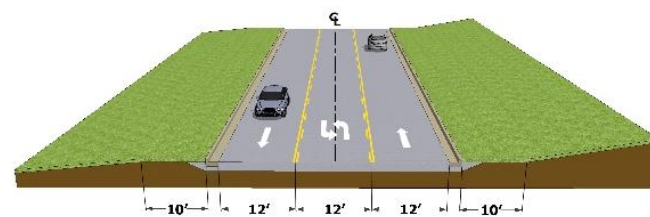
As a result of studies and input from the public at the previous workshops, a team of state and federal agencies headed by NCDOT and FHWA determined that three of the alternatives would be carried forward through the Environmental Assessment. These are:

Alternative E 33' Fixed Span Bridge

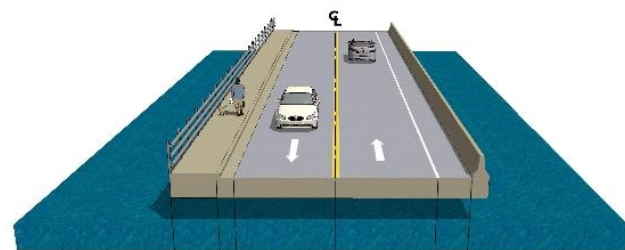
New fixed span bridge to the west of the existing bridge, following the northern portion of the existing causeway

- Avoids direct impacts in Hertford Historic District but removes bridge and changes the view from the district
- Changes traffic pattern into and out of downtown Hertford
- Impacts one business

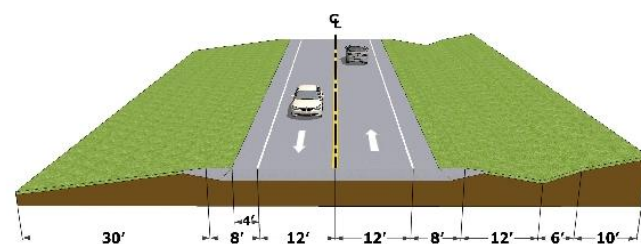
Alternative E Typical Section:



US 17 Business/NC 37 from Grubb Street to Bridge



US 17 Business/NC 37 Over Perquimans River



US 17 Business/NC 37 from Bridge to North End of Project

Not to Scale

Alternative B 15' Swing-Span Bridge

New swing span parallel (to the northeast) with the existing bridge, replacing the existing causeway with a new low fixed structure in the same location

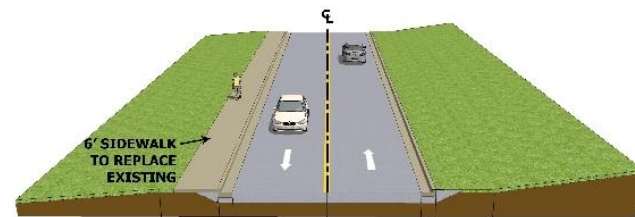
- 15 feet of clearance above the water allows 75% of boats to pass under the swing-span without the need to open
- Reduced demand for opening bridge result in lower maintenance costs and longer life
- Impacts one home

Alternative D-Mod 33' Fixed Span Bridge

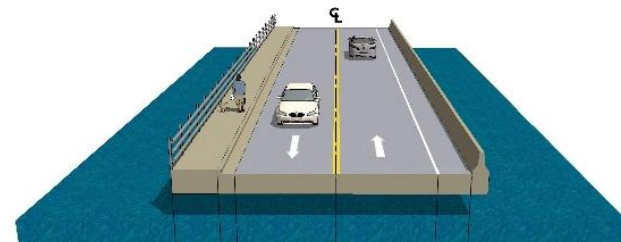
New fixed span bridge to the east of the existing bridge

- Avoids retaining walls on Church Street but removes bridge and changes the view from the Historic District
- Impacts one home

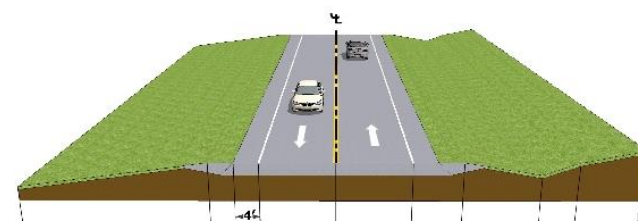
Alternative B and D-Mod Typical Section:



US 17 Business/NC 37 from Church Street to Bridge



US 17 Business/NC 37 Over Perquimans River



US 17 Business/NC 37 from Bridge to North End of Project

Not to Scale



Hearing Map & Environmental Assessment Locations

- Hertford Town Hall, 114 West Grubb Street, Hertford
- Winfall Town Hall, 100 Parkview Lane, Winfall
- Perquimans County Courthouse, 128 N. Church Street, Hertford
- NCDOT Division 1 Office, 113 Airport Drive, Suite 100, Edenton
- NCDOT District Office, 1929 North Road Street, Elizabeth City

Alternative Alignments

